

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 ACDA-12 MCT-02 /108 W
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R 041440Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1980
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY DARE ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMCONSUL DURBAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4494

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, PINS, MOPS, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: LATEST WAR CASUALTY FIGURES

REF: CAPE TOWN 948

1. RHODESIAN DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RELEASED ON AUGUST 1
THE LATEST COMPREHENSIVE COMPILATION OF WAR CASUALTY FIGURES.
THE FIGURES ARE UP TO JULY 31, 1978, AND ARE CUMULATIVE
SINCE DECEMBER 1972, WHEN OPEN HOSTILITIES BEGAN.

2. ACCORDING TO THE RELEASE, 9,409 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED.
THSE INCLUDE 4,963 GUERRILLAS, 652 SECURITY FORCES MEMBERS,
3,693 BLACK CIVILIANS AND 207 WHITE CIVILIANS. THE BLACK
CIVILIAN CASUALTIES ARE BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS: 1,712
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"MURDERED BY TERRORISTS", 296 KILLED IN LAND MINE EXPLOSIONS,
AND 645 "COLLABORATORS" KILLED BY SECURITY FORCES. THE
"COLLABORATORS" ARE FURTHER BROKEN DOWN AS 261 "TERRORIST
RECRUITS, 322 "CURFEW BREAKERS", AND 62 CIVILIANS WHO
"FAILED TO HALT" WHEN TOLD TO DO SO. THE "CURFEW BREAKERS"
INCLUDE 263 PERSONS KILLED IN CROSSFIRES AND 26 LOOTERS.
THE RELEASE SPECIFIES THAT THE ABOVE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE

GUERRILLAS KILLED IN "EXTERNAL OPERATIONS."

3. COMMENT: THE ABOVE FIGURES SHOW SINCE OUR LAST REPORT (REFTEL) SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING LOSSES IN TWO CATEGORIES, I.E., BLACK AND WHITE CIVILIANS. IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1978 THERE HAVE BEEN 86 WHITE CIVILIAN DEATHS COMPARED TO 53 IN ALL OF 1977 AND 68 IN THE PRECEEDING FIVE YEARS. THIEL WE DON'T HAVE GOOD COMPARATIVE FIGURES ON BLACK CIVILIAN LOSSES, IT APPEARS THAT A FULL ONE-THIRD (MORE THAN 1,000) OF THE TOTAL HAVE OCCURED IN 1978.
EDMONDSON

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